

Library

**NORTH KESTIVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

FOR THE YEAR

1958

**LINCOLN :
DONGASTERS LTD., MINT LANE**

NORTH KESTEVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958

LINCOLN :
DONCASTERS LTD., MINT LANE



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29913986>

NORTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector for 1958

Chairman : MR. W. E. YOUNG, J.P., Branston.

Vice-Chairman : MR. G. W. HUTSON, J.P., North Hykeham, Lincoln.

Treasurer : NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK LIMITED, Lincoln.

Medical Officer of Health: DR. W. SHARRARD, The Avenue, Lincoln. Tel. Lincoln 22802

Clerk & Chief Financial Officer : MR. F. FOSTER,

Assistant Clerk & Deputy Financial Officer : MR. T. L. HILL.

Legal Advisers : Messrs. DANBY, EPTONS & GRIFFITH, Solicitors, Lincoln.

*Rating and Valuation Officer & Housing
Chief Manager.* MR. A. ELKINGTON,

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :
MR. J. FREEMAN, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Surveyor : MR. J. B. SMART

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

MR. D. G. OWENS, M.A.P.H.I.

MR. R. I. BAIRSTOW, M.A.P.H.I.

MR. J. H. COOPER, M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices:

31 Clasketgate, Lincoln.

Telephone No. 23221

Surveyors — 27395

Pumping Station, Waneham Bridge,
Metheringham.

Telephone No. 230.

Garage and Store, Sleaford Road,
Metheringham.

Telephone No. 470.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman act as *ex-officio* members of all Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council (except the Rating and Valuation Committee).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As your Medical Officer of Health, I beg to lay before you my report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of your District for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)	102,178
Population 1958	31,640
1957	31,020
Dwelling houses (including houses with shops)..	8,210 (+77)
Commercial Properties	265 (+2)
Licensed Premises	59 (-1)
Entertainment and Recreational	47
Public Utility	42
Educational and Cultural	13
Industrial	36
Miscellaneous.. ..	209
Total number of hereditaments.	8,881
Rateable Value of District	£298,849 (271,437)
Penny Rate Product (estm'd)	£1,180 (1,016)

Council Tenancies.

Permanent houses and bungalows..	..	..	..	1,641
Aluminium bungalows	..	..	..	60
Total	..	..	..	1,701

All families in temporary hutments have been re-housed.

Considerable progress has been made with exchanges and transfers to make the best use of the housing accommodation available, and the Council's Differential Rents Scheme has been very successful.

The usual agricultural pursuits were carried on in the District. There are also crop-drying, an egg-packing station, brick-making kilns, aircraft repair works, sewage works for Lincoln City, a light engineering factory, stone quarries and sand and gravel quarries, road car depots and garages, warehouse-distributors (S.P.D.), a clothing factory, Jointine Products, and, last but not least, the Malleable Iron Works. Food manufacture in a fairly large way is also carried on at the new N.A.A.F.I., Bakery at North Hykeham.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—Legitimate	Total 590	M. 309	F. 281	Birth Rate 19.66 (18.09)
				E. & W. 16.4
Illegitimate	14	8	6	
Still Births—Legitimate	14	9	5	Rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	0	0	0	Total Births 22.65 (29.37)
Total Live and Still Births	618			
Deaths	370	174	196	Death Rate 9.12 (10.9)
				E. & W. 11.7
Maternal mortality per 1000 live and still births	...	...	...	0
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth	...	...	...	0
	...	...	...	0
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—	Total 7	M. 5	F. 2	
	Legitimate	5	2	
	Illegitimate	0	0	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—	Total 8	M. 5	F. 3	
	Legitimate	5	3	
	Illegitimate	0	0	
Comparability Factors—	Births 1.03	Deaths .78		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births—	Total 13.24			
				E. & W. 22.6
" " " " " " " "	1,000 legitimate			13.560
" " " " " " " "	1,000 illegitimate births			0
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births				11.59
Illegitimate live birth rate per cent of total live births				2.3%
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0
Pneumonia was accountable for 4.87% of the deaths. Cancer	14.05			
(10.3)% 1 in 26 cancer of lung or bronchus.				

Heart Disease 42.97% (46.3)	Coronary Disease Angina 16.2 (11.2)%
Tuberculosis, respiratory, 0% (.7)	Influenza 1.35 (1.9)
Cancer of Lung .54 (1.1%)	Strokes, etc. 12.4% (8.18)

GENERAL PROVISIONS of HEALTH SERVICES for the AREA

The County Medical Officer of Health and his staff are responsible for the active operation of the services under part 3 of the National Health Service Act, 1945, including, Care of Mothers and Young Children, Midwifery, Health Visiting, House Nursing, Vaccination and Immunisation Domestic Help, Health education, Prevention of Illness, care and after care, Ambulance Services and all the School Medical Services under the Education Acts.

The Ambulance Services have, as usual, been at full stretch, though the efficiency and relative cost have been improved by the care of all concerned with the use of the scheme, e.g., General Practitioners, Hospitals, yes, and even patients. The cost is heavy and one must indeed be proud of the care for the sick and suffering obvious in this section of the Health Service set up in the last 12 years.

Hospital beds are fully used and we are fortunate in the steady increase of beds at St. Georges' Hospital, Lincoln, and the wonderful improvement in its comfort and beautiful aspect inside and out, of this one-time military hospital. Further considerable improvements and additions are likely in the reasonably near future.

The Mental Health Service, as epitomized for us in the Bracebridge Heath Hospital is going from strength to strength, a most necessary and heartening factor in these days of speed and stress.

The need for care of old people and geriatric cases is paramount to prevent them developing into cases needing hospital care in either ordinary or Mental Hospital beds.

Infectious disease cases are very adequately dealt with in the City and Isolation Hospital, Long Leys Road, Lincoln.

The Dental Service is still at full stretch and there is no increase in the net figures of the Dental Register though one hopes that the position may improve in say 4—5 years time. The County Council has also had its troubles with its Dental Service which makes the adequate dental care of expectant mothers much more difficult.

CLINICS AND INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Bassingham (Comrades Hall).	...	Second Tuesday
Bracebridge Heath. (Village Hall).		Second and Fourth Thursday
Branston. (Methodist Chapel).	...	Second Tuesday
Eagle. (Village Hall).	... ..	Second Wednesday
Heighington. (Methodist Schoolroom).		Second Thursday
Lincoln. (Doddington Road).	...	Third Monday
Metheringham. (Village Hall).	...	First and Third Wednesday
Navenby. (Westleyan School).	...	Second Friday
Nocton. R.A.F. Hospital	... ..	Wednesday, fortnightly
North Hykeham. (Wesleyan Schoolroom).		Second and Fourth Tuesday
(Memorial Hall, Newark Road).		First Monday

Potterhanworth. (Village Hall).	...	Third Friday
Skellingthorpe. (Women's Institute).	...	Second Monday
Thurlby. (Chapel Hall).	...	Second Friday
Waddington. (Church Hall).	...	First and Third Tuesday
Washingborough. (Village Hall).	...	Third Thursday

District Nurses are stationed at Bassingham, Branston, Hykeham, North Hykeham District, Potterhanworth, Skellingthorpe, Swinderby, Waddington, Washingborough and Wellingore.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Inspection of Meat

In the area there are 6 licenced slaughterhouses.

The following is a tabular statement for the post-mortem inspection of animals:—

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	619	115	5	1052	2395	267
Number inspected	619	115	5	1052	2395	267
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	11	24	1	1	10	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	95	24	Nil	2	50	41
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	17.12%	41.73%	20%	0.28%	2.5%	16.85%
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	49	14	Nil	Nil	119	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.92%	14.78%	Nil	Nil	5.05%	Nil
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Other Food Condemned—Weight 30 lbs.

Weight of Meat Condemned.

	Carcase Meat			Offal		
	tons	cwts.	lbs.	tons	cwts.	lbs.
Bovine	9	10	52	2	9	13
Sheep	—	1	98	—	—	55
Pigs	1	18	83	—	5	59
Horses	1	9	52	—	8	11
Total:	13	—	61	3	3	26

Food Premises

- (i) The following is a tabular statement of the type of food premises in the area.

Restaurants and Cafes	Butchers	Grocers and Confectioners	Fish & Chip Fryers	Bakehouses	Fruiterers	Licensed Premises
15	22	103	13	9	2	62

- (ii) **Food Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.**

Sale of Ice-Cream	Manufacture of Meat Products	Fish and Chip Fryers
99	22	13

106 inspections of the above premises were made during the year.

(iii) Disposal of Condemned Meat

This is taken to a Knackers Yard in the district for processing into pet food and fertilisers.

(iv) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1947-52

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district and all ice-cream is sold retail in wrappers or in carton containers.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56

Attention continued to be directed towards attaining and maintaining standards under the Food Hygiene Regulations. A Food premises used for the Manufacture of liquid egg engaged in particular the Department's attention. In consequence of an approach by the Chief Public Health Inspector to the owners of the Egg Packing Station concerned, a new processing room was built on the lines suggested by your Officers. It is too early to say what effect the new room has had on the bacteriological standard of the product. 28 samples of liquid egg were taken during the year. All reports stated no organism of the enteric, salmonella or dysentery groups isolated.

One feels that it is desirable that legislation should be introduced to attain equal standards throughout the country, both in regard to premises and bacteriological quality, and to include for heat treatment of the product.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	713
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	656
Housing Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	985
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Inspections on Complaint	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Other Inspections under Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	975
Inspections under Food and Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Inspections under Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Housing Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	211
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Sewer Dykes	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Chlorinators	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Visits <i>re</i> Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	303
Visits to Council Houses <i>re</i> Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	2821
Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Buildings in course of Erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	1177
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Visits to Housing Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	1033
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Visits <i>re</i> Connections to Sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Garage and Store	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Pumping Station	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Inspections under Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Housing

In carrying out their duties under the Housing Acts in respect of unfit houses, investigating applications for Improvement Grants and supervising the subsequent work, your Public Health Inspectors made 985 visits. The following gives brief details of the outcome of this work.

(a) Slum Clearance

During 1958, 72 houses were reported to the Council under Section 16, Housing Act 1957, as being unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense. Of the 72 houses, Demolition Orders were made in 27 cases, Closing Orders in 11 cases, 12 undertakings accepted and 22 remained to be finally dealt with at the end of the year. 7 Demolition Orders, 4 Closing Orders were made and 4 undertakings accepted by the Council in respect of houses first dealt with before 1958. 11 houses were demolished, 2 made fit and 24 families displaced from unfit houses as a result of action under Section 16.

21 houses were reported as being unfit pursuant to Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957, and were included in Clearance Areas. Of these, 4 were included in a confirmed Compulsory Purchase Order and 14 were included in Clearance Orders submitted to the Ministry but not yet confirmed, and the question of the remaining three has yet to be resolved. During the year 9 families from Clearance Areas dealt with previously were rehoused.

During the year 3 Statutory Notices were served and have been complied with.

Rent Act 1957

During the year 4 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received and 3 Certificates were granted.

(b) Improvement Grants

During the year the Council approved applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, Section 30, in respect of 25 dwellings, the amount of grants involved being £7,141.

(c) New Housing

50 new Council Houses were completed during the year bringing the total built since the end of the war to 1077.

During the year 292 dwellings were completed by private builders making a total of 989 since the war. At the end of the year 152 private dwellings were under construction.

Water Supply

All parishes have a piped water supply. Bracebridge Heath, Canwick, North Hykeham, South Hykeham, Skellingthorpe and part of Waddington are supplied by Lincoln Corporation. Potterhanworth has its own local supply, and the remaining parishes are supplied from the Council's source at Dunston. Details of the supply are given below :—

				<i>Direct Services</i>		<i>Pillar Fountains</i>	
				<i>No. of Properties served</i>	<i>Popl'n served</i>	<i>No. of Properties served</i>	<i>Popl'n served</i>
Aubourn, Haddington and South							
Hykeham	...	...	...	174	591	17	56
Bassingham	...	...	...	162	571	2	7
Beckingham	...	...	...	62	211	20	68
Boothby Graffoe	...	...	...	42	142	—	—
Bracebridge Heath	...	...	...	575	3219	—	—
Branston and Mere	...	...	...	495	1707	53	174
Brant Broughton and Stragglethorpe	...	...	...	157	532	18	73
Canwick	...	...	...	83	282	—	—
Carlton-le-Moorland	...	...	...	59	191	6	22
Coleby	...	...	...	113	408	9	35
Doddington and Whisby	...	...	...	77	269	—	—
Dunston	...	...	...	108	368	23	81
Eagle and Swinethorpe	...	...	...	108	429	—	—
Harmston	...	...	...	63	214	19	54
Heighington	...	...	...	267	898	26	85
Leadenham	...	...	...	141	480	1	4
Metheringham	...	...	...	303	1030	117	403
Navenby (includes Skinnand)	...	...	...	155	539	37	126
Nocton	...	...	...	84	724	8	28
North Hykeham	...	...	...	1178	3804	—	—
North Scarle	...	...	...	64	203	—	—
Norton Disney	...	...	...	39	139	8	29
Potterhanworth	...	...	...	97	335	18	57
Skellingthorpe	...	...	...	583	2188	—	—
Stapleford	...	...	...	24	83	13	45
Swinderby	...	...	...	99	1867	—	—
Thorpe-on-the-Hill (includes Morton)	...	...	...	114	752	—	—
Thurlby	...	...	...	20	74	6	24
Waddington	...	...	...	472	3512	79	257
Washingborough	...	...	...	298	894	36	112
Welbourne	...	...	...	179	607	24	75
Wellingore	...	...	...	144	491	11	36

The problems of lack of pressure due to insufficient water pipe sizes persisted during the year, notably in the parishes of Branston, Heighington and Washingborough.

During the year a scheme to overcome the problem in these three parishes was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the informal inquiry into the proposals was held during November 1958.

This scheme was based upon the Council's source of supply, but after the enquiry the Council were invited to send a delegation to the Ministry to discuss the question of taking a bulk supply from the mains of the Lincoln Corporation as an alternative to the scheme submitted.

Samples taken from Public Supplies in 1958

Samples have been taken at the sources at Dunston and Potterhanworth weekly, and in every case the samples of raw water have been satisfactory. Weekly samples have been taken at the source after chlorination, the only treatment given to the water, and, here again, all samples have been satisfactory.

As a check against possible contamination in the mains between source and consumer, samples have been taken weekly at different points throughout the district. Usually these samples have been taken at taps in houses, and in the majority of cases they were satisfactory. In some cases, however, unsatisfactory reports on samples were received but, in every case a further sample, taken immediately on receipt of the bad report, proved to be satisfactory. This showed that the water had been subject to local contamination, probably from the tap.

Details of the numbers of samples are given below:—

<i>Nature of Sample</i>				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Chemical	...	...	...	2	—	2
Bacteriological	...	...	...	189	5	194

Refuse Disposal

A weekly collection of refuse was carried out throughout the whole of the District partly by direct labour and partly by contract. Refuse was disposed of by tipping at sites at Metheringham, Skellingthorpe, Washingborough and Wellingore.

Cesspools to private houses were emptied free at intervals of not less than 12 months, at other times and in the cases of premises other than private houses a charge of thirty shillings was made. Privy vaults were emptied at a charge based on the time taken.

For several years the only villages, where a pail closet emptying service had been operated, other than for schools, were North Hykeham and Waddington. From 1st October, 1958, this service was extended to all the unsewered villages in the District. Approximately 1,600 pail closets are emptied weekly and for this purpose two cesspool emptiers, staffed by two drivers and four labourers were employed.

Disposal of pail contents was either by discharging into public sewers, where this could be conveniently arranged, or to compost pans, a number of which were established throughout the District. The indiscriminate spreading of faecal matter on agricultural land was not used as a means of disposal.

Apart from a number of complaints received at the outset, when the teams of men were not familiar with the properties to be served, the scheme has worked smoothly both in regard to service to the householder and the problem of finding suitable labour.

Sewage and Sewage Disposal

At the end of 1958 the following villages were sewered:— Boothby Graffoe, Bracebridge Heath, Branston, Heighington, Metherringham, North Hykeham, Washingborough, Waddington and Welbourne. The scheme serving the parishes of North Hykeham and Waddington has been constructed since the war and at the end of 1958, 1,251 properties were connected to the system. During the year the extensions of the sewage disposal works to receive sewage from R.A.F. Waddington were completed and the domestic sewage from this establishment is now being treated at the Council's works. The dry weather flow from this station is approximately 100,000 gallons per day and since prior to the sewage being received at the Council's disposal works it was discharged, after treatment, to the Lincoln Limestone, it will be appreciated that a serious source of possible pollution to underground water supplies has been removed.

The re-sewering of Metherringham and the provision of new sewage disposal works continued during the year.

The scheme for sewerage Brant Broughton was commenced during the year. The sewerage of the parishes of Branston, Heighington, and Washingborough and the construction of the new sewage disposal works was completed and, exercising their powers under Section 42 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council authorised the connection of 783 properties in these parishes to the sewer at public expense. All but a few of these were connected by the end of 1958 and in addition other properties not qualified for a free connection have been connected at the owner's expense. As a matter of general policy, the Council, using their powers under Section 47 Public Health Act, 1936, will assist voluntary conversion of closets to water closets and will pay 50% of the cost of the work, or £15, whichever is the less. A number of schemes for such conversions in the parishes of Branston, Heighington and Washingborough were approved.

Tuberculosis (New Cases in 1958)

			Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.				M	F.
Totals	...	...	10	9	...			0	0
Deaths	...	...	0	0	...			0	0

DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	CASE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	TOTAL DEATHS
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Pneumonia	5	2	24
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—
*Acute Polio-Myelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Measles	163	—	—
Whooping Cough	27	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	—
Malaria (R)	—	—	—
Hepatitis Infective	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	1	—

One non-paralytic polio from Washingborough was notified by Lincoln City when finally diagnosed in the City Hospital.

GENERAL REMARKS

Diphtheria

We are again blessed with a nil return.

These figures of deaths from 1944-57 show the marvellous results due to Immunisation in the County as a whole.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Notifications</i>
1944	934	23,199
1946	472	11,986
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	240
1954	9	173
1955	13	161
1956	8	63
1957	6	40
1958	8	79

As there were over a thousand deaths yearly before the war the picture still is that of a **miracle**. But therein lies the danger. Once again I feel I must re-iterate the warning to all mothers that they must make certain their children are protected (by immunisation) from this subtle, and no doubt dormant killer. The increase of almost 100% in notifications and 50% in deaths over those for 1957 underlines the warning.

Accidental Deaths—E. & W.

Home

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
M.	794	593	466	621	2474
F.	1412	1062	768	1050	4292

Transport

M.	1254	1065	1162	1226	4707
F.	402	329	346	440	1517

It is astounding to find such a number of deaths in the Home and more than on the roads outside.

Our own figures show 3.2% of the total deaths due to accidents and 2.7% were due to accidents other than motor vehicle ones.

Polio-Myelitis

We have been indeed fortunate in that we have almost escaped this dread disease altogether. One case was diagnosed in Hospital notified by Lincoln City, though he did originate in our district.

The response to our appeal to the teenagers and those in early man and womanhood to have polio vaccination now has been poor. It takes a tragedy to bring the danger to peoples notice and even that is soon forgotten.

It is now certain that one booster dose of vaccine is advisable and possibly two. Even if there is not much obvious protection as shown by anti-body titre some time after initial two dose vaccination, yet a booster dose very sharply lifts the blood-immunity showing that there is a hidden reserve in the body, ready to react to booster stimulus.

Fluoridisation

As a nation we have rotten teeth but do not seem unduly concerned about them. The Dental Service of the N.H.S. which is incapable of dealing adequately with even those who desire treatment will have taken £50,000,000 in 1958. More dentists, if available, will mean more cost still. Moreover since 1947 when sweets were made plentiful the incidence (in a test area) of dental caries has increased to such an extent that now over half the children entering school at 5 are found to have at least five carious teeth.

Fluoridisation of water to the extent of one part per million would render our people 60% less prone to dental caries than one which consumes "non-fluoride water. Our present supply contains minute quantities of fluorine and I hope the Minister will soon see fit to authorise the fluoridisation of water supplies particularly as an addition of .8 parts per million of a substance already present in our supply could hardly be counted as "tinkering with the water supply."

The question was to (1) Whether fluoride by imposing extra work on the kidney predisposes to or exacerbates coincidental kidney disease and (2) Whether the diseased kidney is able to excrete fluoride in normal amounts. The answer to (1) comes from Vital Statistics. Those of South Shields, West Hartlepool and Colchester, all areas with water around 1 p.p.m. show no excess of deaths from nephritis compared with lower fluoride areas. American figures agree with this.

The answer to (2) is less easy. But if kidney function were poor a heavier load would be imposed on bone. But from the many high fluoride areas of the world no symptoms relating kidney disease and osseous fluorosis has been found except one in 1939 and one in 1943. Absence of other reports suggests no real hazard arises.

Tuberculosis

We have the most heartening information that none died of tuberculosis in our district in the year 1958. In England and Wales the total death rate was 4,480 whereas 20 years ago the number was over 25,000. Mass radiography has been most useful in picking up latent cases and the use of B.C.G. vaccine is an added protection. Good feeding, better housing and sanitation etc. are now paying off.

Cancer

I return once again to the question of cancer of the lung. The figures for deaths were:

1956—15615 men 2571 women

1957—16430 men 2689 women

1958—17030 men 2779 women

Compare this with Polio-Myelitis about which we are all very concerned, in which there were only 755 deaths in its worst year 1950., Over 100,000 deaths from this disease in Great Britain since 1950, more than from all death on the roads, in the home, in industry, in the mines and at sea.

There is a belief that the real and growing danger of lung cancer is in a long incubation period of 30 years. This would account for the youngsters attitude of eternal optimism ("its too far away") and of their elders ("it can't happen to me")

Figures recently compiled in a test showed one in three Secondary Modern School boys and 1 in 4 Grammer School boys are smoking five or more cigarettes a week at 15. One in eight smoke over 40 a week. This was in London. In Norway 24% of 4000 children questioned admitted to smoking regularly by the age of 14.

What can be done? We older ones must show by personal example and all panels and brains trusts etc. on Television should reduce their consumption and there should be no smoking in Theatres and cinemas,

etc. The law prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to persons under 16 should be properly enforced. The most promising approach may be via the 11 year old Secondary School entrant whom the local authorities are trying to reach with lectures and pamphlets from the Central Council for Health Education.

A new spirit must arise—self-discipline and renewed higher values in everything and on the part of old and young alike.

Water

As always the purity and adequacy of supply have been ever before us. The former has remained constant, the latter, though equal to demand in most of the district, is yet quite a headache in certain parts of the district.

Sewage and sewage disposal

As you will see by your surveyors report we have progressed remarkably during the year and the number of connections made confirm the wisdom of the Council in its policy to ensure maximum use of this great amenity.

Housing

In every aspect, Public, Private and in slum clearance we have been active and well served, and continuous progress has been maintained.

Finally I once more tender my sincere thanks to a happy, hard working staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. SHARRARD.

APPENDIX I. CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.		M.	F.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	0	0	19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	5
2 Tuberculosis, other ...	0	0	20 Other heart disease ...	33	58
3 Syphilitic disease ...	1	1	21 Other circulatory disease ...	4	11
4 Diphtheria ...	0	0	22 Influenza ...	4	1
5 Whooping cough ...	0	0	23 Pneumonia ...	11	7
6 Meningococcal infections ...	0	0	24 Bronchitis ...	9	2
7 Acute poliomyelitis ...	0	0	25 Other diseases of respiratory system ...	0	1
8 Measles ...	0	0	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	2
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	0	1	27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	0	1
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	5	3	28 Nephritis and nephrosis ...	3	1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	0	29 Hyperplasia of prostate ...	6	0
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	7	30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	0
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	0	3	31 Congenital malformations ...	0	0
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	21	11	32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	12	18
15 Leukæmia, aleukæmia ...	0	0	33 Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	1
16 Diabetes ...	0	0	34 All other accidents ...	9	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	15	31	35 Suicide ...	2	0
18 Coronary disease, angina ...	30	30	36 Homicide and operations of war ...	0	0
			All causes ...	174	196

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Sanitary accommodation—

Insufficient, 3. All were remedied.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	3	—
Factories not included in(i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	69	38	1
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	14	14	2
TOTAL ...	86	55	3

